

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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A1
1. An apparatus for exclusively binding data to a data processing system comprising:
2 a data storage device in which said data is stored;
3 a battery that provides a binding signal independent of system power supplied to said
data processing system; and
a binding latch that receives said binding signal, wherein said binding latch is set
upon removal of said binding signal.
 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said binding latch is a non-volatile storage device.
 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data storage device is contained within a
detachable medium within said data processing system.
 4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said detachable medium is a circuit card or a
module detachably mounted onto a system planar.
 5. The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising a charge pump within said detachable
medium, wherein said charge pump supplies power to set said binding latch in response to
removal of said detachable medium from said system planar.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising a signal line connecting said binding
2 signal from said battery to a sensing input on said detachable medium.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said binding signal is applied to a dedicated
2 binding pin on said detachable medium.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising circuit means within said detachable
2 medium for detecting removal of said binding signal from said binding pin.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising:

2 circuit means within said detachable medium for detecting the state of said binding
3 latch; and

4 circuit means within said detachable module, which, in response to detecting that said
5 binding latch is set, removes said data from said data storage device.

1 10. A method for exclusively binding data to a data processing system comprising:

2 detachably coupling a data storage device that stores said data within said data
3 processing system;

4
5 providing a battery binding signal that is independent of system power supplied to
6 said data processing system; and

7
8 in response to removal of said battery binding signal, setting a non-volatile binding
9 latch that indicates the removal of said battery binding signal.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said data storage device is contained within a
2 detachable medium within said data processing system.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein said detachable medium is a circuit card or a
2 module, said method further comprising detachably mounting said detachable medium onto
3 a system planar.

1 13. The method of claim 11, wherein said detachable medium includes a charge pump,
2 said method further comprising supplying power from said charge pump to set said binding
3 latch in response to removal of said detachable medium from said system planar.

1 14. The method of claim 11, further comprising connecting said binding signal from said
2 battery to a sensing input on said detachable medium.

1 15. The method of claim 11, further comprising applying said binding signal to a
2 dedicated binding pin on said detachable medium.

1 16. The method of claim 11, further comprising detecting within said detachable medium
2 removal of said binding signal from said binding pin.

3 17. The method of claim 11, further comprising:

4 detecting the state of said binding latch; and

5 in response to detecting that said binding latch is set, removing said data from said
6 data storage device.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein said detecting the state of said binding latch is
2 processed by mounting said detachable medium into said data processing system or another
3 data processing system.

1 19. A method for logically binding data within a data processing system, said method
2 comprising:

storing said data within a detachable subsystem of said data processing system;

installing said detachable subsystem onto a mounting site within said data processing
system, wherein said installing includes coupling a battery signal to a dedicated connection
point on said detachable subsystem; and

responsive to an interruption of said battery signal to said dedicated connection point,
setting a binding latch within said detachable subsystem, wherein said set binding latch
results in removal of said data from said detachable subsystem upon a subsequent installation
of said detachable subsystem.